

Appl. No. 09/974,775
Amtd. dated March 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 24, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-14 and 22-38 have been canceled. Claims 15-21 have been amended. Support for the amendments to claims 15 and 17 is found, *inter alia*, in originally filed independent claim 10 and originally filed dependent claim 14. Support for the amendments to claim 19 is found, *inter alia*, in originally filed independent claim 10. Also, claims 15-18, 20, and 21 have been amended to correct for formalities including antecedent basis and typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A golf ball composition ~~as defined in claim 14, comprising:~~

a syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene having a crystallinity between about 5% and about 50%, a mean molecular weight between about 10,000 and about 350,000, and a percentage of 1,2-bonds of greater than about 70%;

polymers selected from the group consisting of ionomeric polymers, non-ionomeric polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

a crosslinking agent, co-crosslinking agent, crosslinking accelerator, or mixtures thereof;

wherein the ratio by weight of the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene to the polymers ranges between about 5:90 and about 90:5, and the ratio by weight of the crosslinking agent to the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene and the polymers ranges between about 0.1:100 and about 10:100.

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Claim 16 (currently amended): A golf ball composition as defined in claim 15, wherein the ratio by weight of the crosslinking agent to the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene and the polymers ranges between about 0.1:100 and about 5:100.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A golf ball composition ~~as defined in claim 14~~, comprising:
a syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene having a crystallinity between about 5% and about 50%, a mean molecular weight between about 10,000 and about 350,000, and a percentage of 1,2-bonds of greater than about 70%;
polymers selected from the group consisting of ionomeric polymers, non-ionomeric polymers, and mixtures thereof; and
a crosslinking agent, co-crosslinking agent, crosslinking accelerator, or mixtures thereof;
wherein the ratio by weight of the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene to the polymers ranges between about 5:90 and about 90:5, and the ratio by weight of the crosslinking accelerator and the co-crosslinking agent to the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene and the polymers ranges between about 0.1:100 and about 20:100.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A golf ball composition as defined in claim 17, wherein the ratio by weight of the crosslinking accelerator and the co-crosslinking agent to the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene and the polymers ranges between about 0.1:100 and about 10:100.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A golf ball composition ~~as defined in claim 10~~, further comprising:

a syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene having a crystallinity between about 5% and about 50%, a mean molecular weight between about 10,000 and about 350,000, and a percentage of 1,2-bonds of greater than about 70%;
polymers selected from the group consisting of ionomeric polymers, non-ionomeric polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

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a copolymer having a glycidyl group, hydroxyl group, maleic anhydride group or carboxylic group;

wherein the ratio by weight of the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene to the polymers ranges between about 5:90 and about 90:5.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A golf ball composition as defined in claim 19, wherein the ratio by weight of the copolymer having a glycidyl group, hydroxyl group, maleic anhydride group or carboxylic group to the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene and the polymers ranges between about 1:100 and about 20:100.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A golf ball composition as defined in claim 20, wherein the ratio by weight of the copolymer having a glycidyl group, hydroxyl group, maleic anhydride group or carboxylic group to the syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene and the polymers ranges between about 1:100 and about 15:100.

Claims 22-38 (canceled)